

MEXICO (\$66 Million)

Account (\$ in thousands)	FY 2008 Estimate	FY 2008 Supp	FY 2009 Bridge Supp	*FY 2009 Request	FY 2009 Supp Request
Development Assistance (DA)	8,215	0	0	14,000	0
Economic Support Fund (ESF)	11,903	20,000	0	0	0
Foreign Military Financing (FMF)	0	116,500	0	2,000	0
Global Health and Child Survival (GHCS)	2,678	0	0	2,500	0
International Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement (INCLE)	26,553	215,500	48,000	477,816	66,000
Nonproliferation, Anti-Terrorism, Demining and Related Programs (NADR)	919	0	0	3,845	0
International Military Education and Training (IMET)	369	0	0	834	0
TOTAL	50,637	352,000	48,000	500,995	66,000

*FY 2009 country allocations have not been determined and will be transmitted to Congress at a later date as required by section 653 (a) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961.

Summary

The multi-year Merida Initiative (\$1.4 billion for Mexico) was announced on October 22, 2007. The Initiative aims to reduce drug demand, stop the flow of arms and weapons, and confront gangs and criminal organizations in Mexico and Central America. It is designed to build on activities already underway in the region and to complement U.S. domestic efforts to combat these threats.

\$66 million International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Fund (INCLE)

Peace and Security (\$66 million)

Given the escalating violence along the U.S.-Mexico border and drug cartels' vicious attacks to undermine President Calderon's government, there is a pressing need to provide the Government of Mexico (GOM) critical air mobility support to effectively combat the drug cartels.

FY 2009 Supplemental resources, in combination with prior year funds to be reprogrammed, will be used to acquire three Blackhawk helicopters for Mexico's civilian Public Security Secretariat (SSP) to provide them urgently needed air transport capacity and also to provide spare parts and other support. The GOM seeks to have an expanded SSP replace the Mexican military in conducting law enforcement operations as expeditiously as the security crisis permits. U.S. funding for this program will highlight our support for quickly moving primary responsibility for law enforcement operations back to the SSP. These helicopters will supplement the seven already purchased or on order by the GOM using its own resources, giving the SSP a total of ten. The helicopters will be used throughout Mexico, but particularly where drug trafficking organizations are challenging the GOM for control of major cities, including those on the U.S./Mexico border. The SSP is expanding its roster of trained and vetted personnel and will be ready to absorb and make use of these three helicopters upon their delivery.

The Department of State is committed to supplying the GOM with the resources required to increase SSP air mobility and will reprogram \$16 million in existing Merida funds provided in P.L. 110-252 to fully fund the acquisition of three Blackhawk helicopters (total cost of \$82 million), as well as spare parts and support costs.